WALNUT PARK
Community Parks & Recreation Plan

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN
The purpose of the Plan is to provide a vision and roadmap for a greener Walnut Park, including a more extensive network of publicly-accessible green spaces and recreational facilities, as well as environmental enhancement projects. More importantly, the Plan provides specific implementation actions to be taken by the County. These will require establishing and strengthening partnerships in order to help reach the vision of a greener, safer and healthier community. The Plan builds on previous planning efforts and is a response to community needs and calls for more greening in Walnut Park.

PARKS AND GREENING PROFILE
Walnut Park has a severe deficit of parkland. The community only has one joint-use park, approximately 4.5 acres in size, serving a population of nearly 16,000 residents. Additionally, the park is located on the school grounds of a local elementary school and has limited hours for community use. The Los Angeles County General Plan sets a standard of 4 acres of local parks per 1,000 residents. Based on current population levels, Walnut Park only has approximately 0.3 acres of local parks per 1,000 residents, a figure significantly below the General Plan standard.

Due to the limited access of the joint-use park, many residents feel they do not have a park in their community and travel to parks outside of Walnut Park or simply do not visit parks at all. Nearly one third of Walnut Park residents are not within walking distance (1/2 mile) of a park, suggesting that their likelihood of using park spaces is significantly lower than residents within walking distance of parks. Other local environmental issues create a high community need for increased parks and green spaces. These issues include high levels of emissions and noise from nearby industrial uses, low urban tree canopy coverage, and a challenging pedestrian and bicycle environment.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF EXISTING PARK
- 120,000 gallons of stormwater intercepted annually
- 160 pounds of reduced air pollutants annually
- 15,000 tons of CO₂ sequestered annually

Where are parks most needed in Walnut Park?

Note: In accordance with the joint use agreement governing use of Walnut Nature Park, the southwest portion of the park along Pacific Boulevard is open to the public at 3 pm during regular school days. The blacktop area and the multi-purpose field are open to the public at 5 pm on regular school days. Both areas are open to the public on weekends and days when the school is closed.

Community Workshop November 2013.
This map identifies potential park, trail, and greening projects that may be implemented in the short, medium, and/or long term to meet the needs of Walnut Park.

Site Identification Process

**Existing Conditions**

- Recreation Trends and Standards
- Community Input
- Mapping

**FACILITY NEEDS**

- What types of parks and amenities does Walnut Park need?

**NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

- SPATIAL NEEDS
  - Where does Walnut Park need parks?

**POTENTIAL PARKLAND OPPORTUNITIES**

- Potential Parkland Opportunity
- Potential Trail Opportunity
- Potential Green Street
- Potential Parklet Priority Area
- Commercial Land Use
- Industrial Land Use

Potential Land Use: Industrial Outreach

Potential Green Street

Potential Green Street

Potential Green Street

Potential Green Street

Potential Green Street

Potential Green Street

Potential Reuse

Monitor Retail Buildings for Potential Reuse for Recreational Facility

Rail to Park Linear Greenway

Santa Fe Avenue Park Node

Drought Tolerant Demonstration Garden and Water Tank Murals

Pocket Park in the Heart of the Community

Santa Fe Avenue Greenway

Walnut Park’s Green Spine: Pacific Boulevard Sidewalk Trail and Green Street

Walnut Nature Park Fitness Trail

Memorial Park

Walnut Park

Santa Fe Avenue

Pocket Park

Walnut Park

Santa Fe Avenue

Pocket Park

Green Spine: Nadeau St

Palm Pl

Santa Ana St

Albany St

Demand

Alameda

Protest

Demonstration Avenue

Node St

Schools

Middle

Short St

Mabrisa Ave

Ave

Santa Fe Ave

Moderna

Pacific Boulevard

Santa Ana St

Cole Pl

Sale Pl

California St

Potential Parkland Opportunity Potential Parklet Priority Area

Poplar Pl

Rugby Ave

St

Walnut Park

Orchard Pl

Pine Pl

in the Heart

Rita Ave

Pacific

Greenway

Rail to Linear Parklet

Madrid Ct

Green Street

Potential Green Street

Potential Green Street

Potential Green Street

Potential Green Street

Potential Green Street

Industrial Land Use

Miles Ave

Site Identification Process

Source: Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, 2013, PlaceWorks, 2013.
GOALS FOR WALNUT PARK

1. Increase overall green space and develop new recreational facilities.

2. Ensure that facilities and programs meet community needs and that the community is included in decision-making processes.

3. Provide new places for exercise and safe places to walk.

4. Create public spaces that support community interaction and cultural identity through public art, community events, and commercial enterprise.

5. Improve access to parks, green space, and community amenities while creating safe corridors for pedestrians and cyclists.

6. Maintain and enhance Walnut Park’s urban forest.

7. Focus on multi-benefit urban greening projects that optimize environmental services.

CONCEPTUAL POCKET PARK

- exercise equipment
- well-lit walking path
- bench
- picnic tables at focal tree
- climbing play feature/sculpture reflecting community identity
- play surface path
- play surface hillside
- low-water use grass berm
- bench
- dance/music podium with shade sails (or trellis)
- restrooms

Service improvements (with the addition of potential new parks)

- Parkland Acres
  - 4.5 acres
  - 12 acres
  - Increase of 7.5 acres of parkland

- Total Population Served
  - 9,000 people
  - 13,000 people
  - 44% increase in service

- Youth Population (Under 18) Served
  - 2,800 youth
  - 4,000 youth
  - 43% increase in service

Graphs show improvements based on the addition of high priority park projects.